

RAILWAY JOURNALS.—The calls for May appear to have been only 386,399*l.*, against 1,071,088*l.* in same period last year; 3,246,848*l.* in 1848; and 3,440,675*l.* in 1847. The total amount called from 1st January to 31st May, 1850, is 5,444,147*l.*—The cast-iron girders over the bridges on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire line, are being replaced by others, also of cast-iron. —The Great Northern, says a cotemporary, have lately had works constructed for full 20 per cent. lower than the engineer's contract prices. In the London goods and temporary passengers' station, for instance, the contracts have been let, and the works are in course of construction by responsible contractors, for prices ranging from 20 to 30 per cent. lower than the engineer's scheduled prices; and yet the engineer made his estimate of the price, at which the work should be done, when the market price of materials was at about its lowest. —Mr. Brunel, the engineer of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, is understood to have submitted to the Directors a guaranteed estimate of the cost of constructing the entire line within twenty months, at less than 20,000*l.* a mile. —The Midland Company are about to contract for working the Leeds and Bradford and the Bristol and Birmingham lines. —The bridge by which the Dean Forest line will be carried across Worcester-street, Gloucester, is now in progress of construction. —The tenders were opened on 14th inst., for the first 26 miles of the St. Andrew's and Woodstock (Canada) Railway, when it was found they were too high, 12,000 *dols.* a mile being the terms: they were consequently rejected. A subsequent agreement, however, was made with some of the parties tendering for completion of the first 15 miles, considered the most difficult and expensive. The remainder, it is expected, will be done at a lower rate. A locomotive is expected, to be sent out this summer from this country.

INTERMENT BILL IN LONDON.—The Common Council of the City accept the principle of the Bill, but seek to exempt the City. A committee has prepared a Bill, to be submitted to the Home Secretary, proposing that all interments shall cease in the City and liberties on 1st July, 1851. A sufficient cemetery to be provided. Compensation to be given to present incumbents only, on three years' average of receipts, not five, as proposed in Government Bill. Compensation on same principle to be given to other officers. The burial arrangements to be under control of an unpaid committee. A cemetery to be formed within five miles of the City, and families to have power to bury as they think proper, while cheap burials are provided for those who choose. Reception-houses for the dead to be provided, but no one compelled to deposit a body there, except in extreme sanitary necessity. The moneys required to be raised on credit of the City seal.

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC PROGRESS.—Russia, it appears, as far as St. Petersburg, will shortly be placed in electro-telegraphic rapport with London and England. The emperor has decided on placing St. Petersburg in communication with Vienna and Berlin by electric telegraph through Warsaw and Posen. The wires are now being laid between Berlin and St. Petersburg and St. Petersburg and the Black Sea. The submarine section between Dover and Calais will be completed and opened by the end of the present month. —Great things are reported of Healey's magneto-electric telegraph. A striking and successful experiment, it is said, has just been made under the direction of the French Government, to test the efficacy of this telegraph, which is worked without batteries of any kind, and at a fraction of the cost of the voltaic system. On the line from Paris to Valenciennes, a distance of 180 miles, and the longest telegraphic line in France, after a most satisfactory series of trials on the single distance, first with the full power, and afterwards with 1-20th of the power, the wires were connected so as to treble the total length of wire, making 540 miles to and from Paris and back—the magnetic message being communicated through the first wire, back by the second, through the third, and back again by the fourth. It was not anticipated that the magnet alone could possibly work through this enormous resistance, but it is alleged to

worked as distinctly and rapidly as when only made to traverse the 180 miles with full power. The ordinary telegraph with battery power, used by the French Government, was then put in requisition, but not the slightest effect it is said, was produced. —From evidence before a Parliamentary committee, it appears that the railway mileage open with the telegraph throughout the British Isles is 2,215 miles: open without the telegraph 3,781 miles. The number of telegraphic companies in America amount to 22, covering 10,000 miles. The lines of telegraph completed in France extend over 620 miles, and those in progress over 899 miles. The total completed line of telegraph in Germany is estimated at 2,468 miles, and the range in progress of construction at 1,200 miles.

ARCHITECTURAL LECTURE AT EXETER.—At the Exeter Athenæum, last week, Mr. Ashworth, who has been recently engaged in the restoration of Collumpton Church, gave a lecture on "Anglo-Gothic Architecture." The lecture, which was illustrated by more than eighty large water-colour drawings and diagrams, embraced a very considerable period of the history of church architecture, commencing with the basilicas of Constantine, their rude interior colonnades, selected and supplied from ruins of heathen temples, where the edifices were actual palatial halls of justice turned into churches—the prior's judgment seat, in a semi-circular recess, being converted into the episcopal throne, and the raised space, occupied by advocates and notaries, changed into a choir. The new form gradually developed at Byzantium till Justinian's architects devised the noble church of St. Sophia—the Greek cross of four arms abutting on a central square block,—its interior gathered inwards to form the tabernacle of a large hemispherical cupola, was next illustrated. The Greek cross, lengthened in one arm into the long Latin nave in Italy, indicated the rule of the Emperors till the Lombards set up a kingdom of their own, and having soon learned the arts of the people they conquered, erected churches in a mode now termed the Lombard style, a mixture of the Greek and Latin ecclesiastical architecture. The low cupola, sometimes domical, sometimes roofed in an inclined plane of Greek and Lombard edifices, was followed to the Rhine churches, where a bold departure from the almost flat-roofed octagon of North Italy was noticed in the spire of Bonn Cathedral.

RESTORATION OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF OTTERY ST. MARY.—The restoration of the church of St. Mary Ottery, Exeter, was completed to open the building on the 15th. No cost has been spared, and colours and gilding have been substituted for whitewash and cobwebs. According to local informants, all the galleries have been removed, except one in the south transept, in which the organ has been erected. This instrument formerly stood in a gallery at the west end, and by the alteration the west window, which has been restored with stained glass, is visible. The pews have been removed, and low open seats substituted. The chancel is paved with encaustic tiles of variegated design. The walls have all been scraped clean: the stone niches round the choir have been repaired. The altar is approached by easy steps, each paved with encaustic tiles. Behind the altar is a small chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and known as the "Lady Chapel." The vaulting ribs of the nave have been picked out with bright colours in star, lozenge, &c., patterns; the face of the vault being grey. The chancel ribs have the outer fillet chequered with green and yellow, and have a foliated red border studded with gilt flowers edging the rib on the vault. The (erroneously called) Grandison aisle has some old seat ends (discovered under the floor) adapted to its benches, these latter being Third Pointed and suited to the late character of this richly vaulted aisle. The lady chapel has its vaulting decorated with colour, and is furnished with seats. There are many painted windows by Wailes, O'Connor, Hardman, and Warrington. The font, which is described as being very magnificent, is composed of Devonshire and cornish marbles, and was the gift of Mr. A. B. Hope. The restoration was carried out under the direction of Mr. Butterfield, architect. The contract was undertaken by Mr. Livermore; the stone-work executed by Mr. Dagby, of Ottery.

THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION, originated by the "Architectural Association," will be opened in August, in the New Water Colour Society's Gallery, Pall-mall. The association say,—"A public exhibition, especially devoted to architecture, is a desideratum, the importance of which is so generally acknowledged, that it would be superfluous to dwell upon its peculiar merits and advantages. It is obvious that one of the most favourable results of the establishment of such an exhibition would be to create in the public mind, a greater degree of interest than at present exists concerning architectural art, and to diffuse principles whereby the efforts of its professors may be the more justly and extensively appreciated. The committee will be prepared to receive for exhibition, drawings of works contemplated or in progress, designs submitted in competition during the year, studies and delineations of existing buildings, and antiquities and architectural models. These are to be sent to the gallery, either on 5th or 6th of August." It is much to be regretted that it could not be opened earlier: London is then getting empty.

DAMAGING ORNAMENTAL TREES.—An *aisi prius* the proprietor of a villa at St. John's-wood lately brought an action of damages against a tenant who had lopped five trees of the weeping willow, birch, laburnum, and acacia tribes, which stood between the villa and the high road, concealing the view between the two. The plaintiff estimated the deterioration of his property at 15*l.* a week on 3*l.*, the whole amount of the rent, as the trees were of twenty years growth, and so much injured that twelve or fourteen years would scarcely restore them. On the other hand evidence was led to show that 3*l.* a week were still asked for the villa, and that the pruning had not deteriorated the value of the property,—a nurseryman declaring that in two or three years the trees will be handsomer than ever they had been. The jury awarded 30*l.* damages.

VALUE OF PROPERTY IN BIRMINGHAM.—At an inquiry before Mr. Alexander, Q.C., assessor, and a respectable jury of the county of Warwick, to assess the value of certain premises in High-street, consisting of two houses and retail shops, standing upon 180 yards of ground, and which had been rendered uninhabitable in consequence of the formation of a tunnel of the London and North-Western extension line of railway, Mr. Allen, the freeholder, claimed 7,000*l.*, with an additional sum for compulsory sale. The company had tendered 4,500*l.*, or to reinstate, by the erection of new buildings. The jury, after hearing evidence, found a verdict for 5,700*l.*,—thus fixing the company with the costs of the inquiry.

LITHOGRAPH OF LORD GOUGH.—Mr. Grundy (Regent-street) has just published a clever lithograph of Lord Gough, from a three-quarter portrait painted for his Lordship by Mr. J. Harwood. The lithograph has the peculiarity of being executed by the artist himself, and is very effective.

TENDERS

For two houses, with warehouses, at Triag, Hertfordshire, for Mr. Nicholson: Mr. C. Dyson, Architect:—

	Houses.	Ware-houses.	Total.
Hedges	£ 579 0 0	£ 321 0 0	£ 900 0 0
Reed	1,318 15 0	575 4 0	1,894 0 0
Hampshire	1,960 0 0	323 0 0	2,283 0 0
Andrews	1,193 0 0	325 0 0	1,518 0 0
T. Burton	1,131 0 0	300 0 0	1,431 0 0
Monour (accepted)	1,122 0 0	348 0 0	1,470 0 0

*. Old materials of the present houses, to be allowed for ranged from 40*l.* to 200*l.*

For the erection of the Ragged and Industrial Schools and Juvenile Refuge, Albert-street, Spitalfields: Mr. James Harrison, Architect; from quantities taken out by Mr. G. Enoch:—

Turner and Sons	£3,199 0 0
Pitbeam	3,148 0 0
Brown and Sons	3,604 0 0
Fowler and M'Leana	3,683 0 0
Carter and Ellis	2,727 0 0
Haines and Co.	2,727 0 0
Hill and Son	1,730 0 0
Coleman	2,605 0 0
Carls	3,644 0 0
Corby	3,000 0 0
Smith	3,503 0 0
Troop	2,547 0 0
Loft	3,477 0 0
Cooper and Davies	2,576 0 0
Hill	2,445 0 0
Stockman and Graham	2,306 15 0